

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-03 EB-07 SS-15 NSC-05 AID-05

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2111

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 1233

BELGRADE FOR CODEL SKUBITZ

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RO, US

SUBJECT: US-ROMANIAN INTERPARLIAMENTARY CONTACTS

1. PETRE BUZILA (DIRECTOR, GENERAL SECRETARIAT, GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY) TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 20 THAT GNA WAS PREPARING LETTER TO HOUSE SPEAKER AND PRESIDENT OF SENATE TO INVITE OFFICIALLY A DELEGATION FROM CONGRESS TO VISIT ROMANIA THIS YEAR. LETTER HAD BEEN HELD UP AWAITING ELECTION OF NEW GNA MARCH 17. BUZILA EXPLAINED THAT US-ROMANIAN INTERPARLIAMENTARY CONTACTS IN PAST HAD BEEN NUMEROUS BUT "TOURISTIC" OR PROTOCOLARY WITHOUT FRAMEWORK OR FOLLOW-UP. EFFECT HAS BEEN LOST. GNA WISHED NOW TO MOVE TO MORE STABLE WORKING RELATIONSHIP, IF POSSIBLE, AND TO FOCUS FUTURE CONTACTS ON "ACTUAL PROBLEMS". HE NOTED THAT ROMANIA NEEDED "FRIENDS" AT TIME WHEN MFN WAS ISSUE. ADDED THAT CONGRESS MIGHT FIND IT EASIER TO SEND MEMBERS DURING RECESS, AND DROPPED LARGE HINT THAT ON AUGUST 23 (ROMANIAN NATIONAL DAY) THEY WOULD BE ESPECIALLY WELCOME.

2. BUZILA ALSO MENTIONED IPU-SPONSORED COLLOQUIUM IN BUCHAREST MAY 29-31 ON NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER AT WHICH GOR HOPED FOR U.S. ATTENDANCE. SAID DERWINSKI ALREADY INFORMED. 200 PARTICIPANTS EXPECTED, INCLUDING 30 SPECIALISTS,
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ACADEMICS, REPRESENTATIVES FROM GATT, UN, ETC. ADDED THAT U.S.

REP AT IPU TOKYO HAD BACKED ROMANIA INITIATIVE FOR EVENT.

3. COMMENT: BUZILA PROVED TO BE WELL BRIEFED ON CONGRESS'S CAUTIOUS APPROACH TOWARD TOO FORMAL TIES WITH FOREIGN PARLIAMENTS AND AMBASSADOR'S LATEST CONVERSATION ON TOPIC WITH GNA PRESIDENT GIOSAN (BUCHAREST A-31, FEBRUARY 14, PAGE 2) OF WHICH THE GNA'S LETTER IS EVIDENTLY A RESULT. EMBOFF SUGGESTED ENERGY, ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL, AGRICULTURE AS EXAMPLES OF PRACTICAL AREAS FOR WORKING VISITS. DEPT. ACTION: WHEN REPRESENTATIVE SKUBITZ MEETS GNA OFFICIALS ON MARCH 27 (POSSIBLY INCLUDING GIOSAN) AS PRESENTLY SCHEDULED, MATTER MAY ARISE AGAIN. IN ADDITION TO BACKGROUND EMBASSY CAN PROVIDE SKUBITZ, WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT READY TO OFFER. PENDING A LOOK AT LETTER, WE BELIEVE GNA INITIATIVE WILL GIVE US GOOD PEG TO GET INTERPARLIAMENTARY EXCHANGES ON BETTER, LONGER TERM, FLEXIBLE FOOTING WITHOUT NECESSARILY BINDING CONGRESS TO UNTOWARD COMMITMENTS, AND SHOULD BE RECEIVED POSITIVELY BY USG. ALSO REQUEST ANY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE AT THIS STATE ON US ATTENDANCE AT IPU COLLOQUIUM.
BARNES

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